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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet) REPORT NO.

TOPIC Volkspolizei Grenzbereitschaft in Gefell in the Voetland

EVALUATION 25X1X PLACE OBTAINED 25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT prior to 3 April 1952

DATE OBTAINED 25X1A DATE PREPARED 14 May 1952

REFERENCES 25X1A

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE

1. Prior to 3 April 1952, the Volkspolizei Grenzbereitschaft (VPCB) in Gefell numbered about 700 police and was organized into the headquarters of about 70 men, 3 Kommandantur headquarters each of about 30 men, 9 Kommando headquarters each of about 9 men, 13 Grenzwachen (border posts) each of about 33 men and the 2 Kontrollpassierpunkte (check points) in Gutenfuerst with 25 men and in Juchhoch with 80 men. Under the reorganization program, the department Grenze was transferred to the Landespolizeibehoerden (Land Police Headquarters) (LBDVP) in early January 1952. In early April, the LBDVP assumed the financial administration of the VPCBs whose financial sections were deactivated. In early April, the VPCB in Gefell was reinforced by members of the HVA.
2. At the time reported, the VPCB in Gefell was employed as follows:  
  
Kommandantur 1 in Murbach with Kommandos in Titschendorf, Lehesten and Schlegel; and Grenzwachen in Titschendorf, Lehesten, Schlegel, Luerrenbach, Grunkach and Brennersgruen.  
  
Kommandantur 2 in Hirschberg on the Saale River with Kommandos in Blankenstein, Hirschberg and Gebersreuth; Grenzwachen in Poddiga, Blankenstein, Hirschberg, Venzka, and Moedlareuth; and a Kontrollpassierpunkt in Juchhoch.  
  
Kommandantur 3 in Gross Zoebern with Kommandos in Grobau, Heinersgruen and Troschenreuth; Grenzwachen in Grobau, Krebs, Heinersgruen, Niedersberg, Troschenreuth and Posseck; and a Kontrollpassierpunkt in Gutenfuerst.
3. Officers of the VPCB included VP Kommandeur Wagner (fnu), commanding officer; VP Oberrat Beuthe, (fnu) chief of staff; VP Rat Albert, (fnu), chief of the K section; VP Oberkommissar Reppien (fnu), liaison officer to the Ministry of State Security; and VP Rat Hoffmann (fnu), commanding officer of the Kommandantur in Gross Zoebern.
4. The VPCB in Gefell was scheduled to be transferred to the Lug ins Land hotel in Schleitz and to receive the new designation VPCB in Schleitz. The Kommandantur in Hirschberg was then to be transferred to Gefell.

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5. The following Soviet control stations existed for the area of the Kommandantur in Gross Zeubern at the time of observation: at Gassenreuth for the Grenzwachen in Fosseck and Droschenreuth, in the Lossenberg area for the Grenzwache in Niedersberg, at Larkgruen for the Grenzwachen in Heinersgruen and Krebs and at Gutenfuerst for the Grenzwachen in Grobau and Gebersreuth. \*

25X1A \* **Comment.** The headquarters of the VPGB in Gefell is said to have moved to Sealsburg about January 1952. The personnel strength of 700 men as mentioned in the report is probably too low. Using the strengths of the headquarters and the subordinate units as a base figure, 940 men would be the total strength. The now authorized strength of the VPGBs employed at the zonal border is about 960, and it is probable that the actual strength of the VPGB in Gefell is 940, rather than 700. The report confirms that the VPGB was recently organized into the headquarters, 3 Kommandanturen, 2 Kommandos and 18 Grenzwachen.

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